

Standard Lime & Stone Quarry,  
Tanks and Settling Basins  
County Route 27  
Millville  
Jefferson County  
West Virginia

HAER No. WV-49-H

HAER  
WVA  
19-MILLY,  
1H-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD  
MID-ATLANTIC REGION, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19106

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Standard Lime & Stone Quarry, TANKS AND SETTLING BASINS HAER No. WV-49-H

Location: Standard Lime & Stone Quarry, north side of plant area, County Route 27, Millville, Jefferson County, West Virginia.

UTM: 18.4353720.260210  
Quad: Charles Town, West Virginia

Significance: The Tank and Settling Basin complex is an intact surviving example of an industrial architectural type used during one of the final stages of lime flux production.

Description: The tanks and settling basins are constructed of reinforced concrete. Five are circular in shape and range in size from 15, 25, 65, to 125 feet in diameter. Inside the larger circular basins are the remains of iron stirring arms. There is also a single 60-foot square basin. The complex remains in fair to good condition, though the 65-foot basin is partially demolished.

History: The Standard Lime & Stone Company built these tanks and settling basins for water storage and to allow magnesium and calcium produced during a phase of the P32 Operation to separate. Pebble lime, a dolomite-derived product composed mainly of magnesium and calcium, was dissolved in water and channeled to the settling basins. Stirring arms inside the basins rotated to separate the solids from the water causing the sludge to settle at the bottom of the basin. The calcium was extracted and pumped into the Shenandoah River; the magnesium sludge was collected and burned in a rotary kiln. The final product was a basic flux used in steel mill furnaces.

Sources: Sellards & Grigg, Inc./GEI Consultants, Inc. "National Education and Training Center, Engineering Property Assessment for Old Standard Quarry Property (Martin Marietta Quarry Site), Site No. 2, Vol. 1." Report prepared for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Denver, 1990.

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Historian:

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September 24, 1991